

## Being Judgmental

This judgmental attitude usually comes from a jealous, tormented, disillusioned person. I used to listen to a radio preacher, and in every single program I ever heard, without exception, he preached the wrath of God, hellfire and brimstone. He always seemed to be angry. Some ministers minister out of anger. They're angry at the world, and they assume God is, too. They want judgment to come upon people and this world; they forget John 3:16, (*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*) and they don't intercede for this lost world.

Angry Christians often talk like James and John did when they wanted to call fire down. Jesus responded by saying, **Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of**, as we read in: Luke 9:51-56: **And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to *save them...***

This radio preacher was like a prophet of doom. I found myself always concerned about him. I wanted to meet him and give him a hug and just love on him. He died before I ever got to meet him. They still air his programs. I had an opportunity to meet a lady who'd been a member of his church for years.

She was an elderly lady who worked in a gift shop in an airport. I was witnessing to her, and she let me know she was saved, and told me what church she went to. When I asked what her pastor's name was, she said, "*Well, it was \_\_\_\_.*" She mentioned this minister's name, but said that he'd died, and now they had a new minister.

Over a two or three year period, when I traveled through that airport, I would always make a point to go say hi to this lady. My heart went out to her; she seemed so beaten down. I always wondered what I could say to lift her up and encourage her. Her name was Verna. If she wasn't there, and someone else was working in her place, I'd always ask one of the employees there to "Please tell Verna I said hi." She knew me as the man from New York City. I think the last time I went through there several months ago, they told me she had retired.

On one occasion, Verna shared with me that she wished she could hear a different message in her church, because it was so hard. I was always between flights, so I was usually in a hurry. You don't like to see anybody down and out, and especially a born again Christian. Remember, Jesus came that you might have life and have it more abundantly. He bore our chastisement, He redeemed us from the curse, He delivered us and forgave and cleansed us from every transgression, and He made us more than conquerors. He did all this so we could enjoy life.

**John 10:10: The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

**Isaiah 53:5: But he was wounded for our transgressions, *he* was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.**

**Galatians 3:13: Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:**

**Colossians 1:13: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:**

Colossians 3:13: **Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.**

1 John 1:7: **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**

Romans 8:37: **Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

Usually, critical, judgmental people may have some knowledge of the Word of God, but they don't know the Father God personally. The reason is they let corrupt communication proceed out of their mouth, and by so doing, they grieve the Holy Spirit: **Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.** Ephesians 4:29-32

You can tell by their speech they haven't been hanging around the Father God. Their life usually doesn't have much to do with Him. Their attitude, vocabulary and conduct have created a distance between them and their Father God. God will never become close to you until you draw close to Him James 4:8: **Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you...**

You really don't get to know God in church services. You can learn about Him there, but you get to know God by doing what He tells you to do and by fellowshiping with Him in prayer. That's how you fall in love with God. And, when you love Him, you don't want to grieve Him. There are certain things you won't say or do because you love God. A person who's angry and judgmental doesn't love other people. They don't love sinners, or people of other denominations, so they miss out on the greatest ministry there is... the ministry of Love. 1 Corinthians 13:13: **And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.**

The Amplified says, **And so faith, hope, love abide [faith --conviction and belief respecting man's relation to God and divine things; hope--joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation; love--true affection for God and man, growing out of God's love for and in us], these three; but the greatest of these is love.**

Jesus' ministry was moved by compassion: **But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.** Matthew 9:36

Jesus was bold; He never compromised and was strong. Sometimes He rebuked people who needed to be rebuked, and some He even ran out of the temple (***And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.*** Matthew 21:12,13), but everything He did, He did out of love.

The reason we know that is because Jesus and God are One, and God is Love 1 John 4:8,16: **He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.**

John 10:30: **I and my Father are one.**

The key to walking in divine health and receiving your healing is walking in the God kind of love. One of the signs that you're born again is that you love the brethren (***We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.*** 1 John 3:14). As that love of God grows in your heart, it becomes so strong and

so big that you find yourself loving people more every day. It increases, and that's what God intended it to do.

Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

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